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Draft report

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Addendum

Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions

1. At its 2nd and 5th meetings, on 12 and 14 May 2014, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered agenda item 3, which read as follows:

"Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:

"(a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

"(b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme;

"(c) Working methods of the Commission."

2. For its consideration of agenda item 3, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2014/2-E/CN.15/2014/2);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2014/8-E/CN.15/2014/8);

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(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (E/CN.7/2014/15-E/CN.15/2014/15);

(d) Conference room paper on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (E/CN.15/2014/CRP.3);

(e) Conference room paper on the working methods and documentation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/CN.15/2013/CRP.12).

3. At the 2nd meeting, on 12 May 2014, statements of a general nature were made by the observer for the State of Palestine (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) and by the representatives of Colombia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Nigeria, Croatia, Saudi Arabia and South Africa, as well as by the observers for the Netherlands, France, India, Iraq, Ecuador, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and the Sudan.

4. Introductory statements were made by the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs, the Director of the Division for Management and the Chief of the Secretariat to the Governing Bodies of UNODC. The representative of Spain, in his capacity as co-chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, made an introductory statement.

5. Under agenda item 3, statements were made by the observers for Sri Lanka (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Nicaragua (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) and by the representatives of Brazil, Thailand, Japan, Norway, the United States of America, Cuba and the Republic of Korea. Statements were also made by the observers for Sweden, Finland and Canada. A statement was made by the observer for the International Anti-Corruption Academy.

A. Deliberations

6. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the continuing work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC and its important role as a forum for constructive dialogue, and welcomed the extension of its mandate. Some speakers stated that the working group should become a permanent consultative body of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

7. On budgetary matters, speakers stressed the importance of UNODC being guided by Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 22/9 and the need for the Commission to assess the effectiveness and further feasibility of the new funding model prior to the biennium 2016-2017.

8. Several speakers noted the need for continued constructive dialogue between Member States and the Secretariat for the transparent, consistent and effective implementation of full cost recovery. It was recalled that the simultaneous increase in special-purpose funding and decrease in general-purpose funding was unsustainable and threatened the long-term effective delivery of the Office's

programmes. One speaker maintained that full cost recovery did not generate new costs, but rather presented existing costs in a different way.

9. Several speakers requested UNODC to continue being guided by the principles of transparency, accountability and consistency. Some speakers expressed their appreciation for the fact that the transition towards full cost recovery was enabling an informed discussion on the actual costs and cost-effectiveness of programmes and projects. It was noted that cost discipline and rationalization should be exercised at both headquarters and field offices. It was also noted that the need for cost-efficiencies was particularly important with regard to keeping UNODC projects competitive.

10. Some speakers indicated that full cost recovery should not be applied retroactively to existing projects with agreed financial frameworks. The Secretariat was requested to continue to brief Member States on the implementation of full cost recovery and on challenges and lessons learned. Some speakers also requested detailed information on the use of programme support funds. The Secretariat was further requested to provide information on the geographical distribution and gender balance of UNODC staff at headquarters, as well as in regional and country offices.

11. It was noted that the Commission should be clearly recognized as the policy body responsible for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme and that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice were not a decision-making or governing body, but a consultative body and a forum for the exchange of information and experiences, which should be reflected in the strategic framework for 2016-2017. One speaker noted the need for better prioritization among the objectives in the draft strategic framework, as well as for improved coordination and cooperation with other United Nations agencies. Several speakers expressed support for the application and continued improvement of results-based planning and management and programme-level outcome reporting.

12. It was noted that human rights and gender were important cross-cutting issues for the Office and several speakers stressed the need to implement the Secretary-General's human rights due diligence policy, as well as the UNODC guidance note on human rights. Some speakers noted the need to continue increasing the inclusion of civil society in the work of UNODC.

13. One speaker welcomed the focus on the rule of law and sustainable development as part of the post-2015 development agenda and stated that funds would be allocated for developing indicators relating to the rule of law, justice and security.

14. The need for a continued focus by UNODC on the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, including to developing countries, was emphasized. Many speakers commended UNODC on its provision of normative and technical assistance. Some speakers stressed that core activities of UNODC should be funded by the regular budget to ensure the predictability and sustainability of the resources required to fulfil its mandates.

15. Satisfaction was expressed with the progress made in improving the methods of work of the Commission, as well as with the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat to make relevant documentation available and to update existing background information. The continued need to assess and streamline the documentation

prepared for the Commission was noted. The importance of ensuring the availability of documentation in the official languages of the United Nations was mentioned, as was the need to consider further consolidation of reporting obligations.

16. As far as the strategic framework for the biennium 2016-2017 was concerned, the Commission decided to follow the same approach as the one agreed upon by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, in March 2014, and to transmit the comments received from Member States together with the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2016-2017 to the Committee for Programme and Coordination for its consideration at its fifty-fourth session, in June 2014.